

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraphs 32, 33 and 65 as follows:

[0032] Referring to FIG. 1, there is a disassembled portion of a ballistic wall, generally indicated at 100, made in accordance with the principles of the present invention. The ballistic wall 100 includes a pair of plates 104 and 108 which, as will be discussed in detail below, are attached together by a facing strip 112 and a backing strip 116 which clamp toward one another and prevent bullets from passing through the seam between the plates. ~~As used herein, “seam” refers to the interaction between the plates 104 and 108. The plates are placed such that edges of the plates are adjacent each other. As can be seen in the figures, the “seam” may result in a space between the plates (FIGs. 2, 7, 8a, 8b, and 8c) or may result in very little or no space between the plates (FIGs. 3, 4, 5, 6). The presence or non presence of a space between the plates is not an important aspect of the invention.~~ Also shown in FIG. 1 is a plurality of bolts 120 and nuts 124.

[0033] To assemble the ballistic wall 100, the plates are brought together so that the holes in the plates are adjacent one another. ~~the~~ The facing strip 112 and the backing strip 116 are placed so that holes 132 and 136 therein are in alignment with holes 134 and 138 on the plates. (To maintain simplicity in the drawings, only one hole on each plate is numbered. It will be understood that all of the holes are preferably in alignment, etc.).

[0065] In such a configuration, a joint can be formed which, from the exterior, resembles a wall of a house. The joint is easy to assemble, and avoids the need for pre-drilled lumber and awkward mounting structures for securing the boards 440 which form the exterior of the modular ballistic wall. Additionally, the posts (two-by-fours and two-by-twos) are secured to each plate via the mounting brackets 430, 432, and 344, thereby minimizing the risk of the posts and/or boards pulling away from the metal plates. In the prior art embodiment discussed in FIG. 3 3A, the boards occasionally pulled away from the metal plates. Of course, if the boards pull away sufficiently, a shooter or observer could be hit by a ricochet which fails to impact the boards.